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(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY (U)



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DIA INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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VIETNAM AND RELATED DEVELOPMENTS

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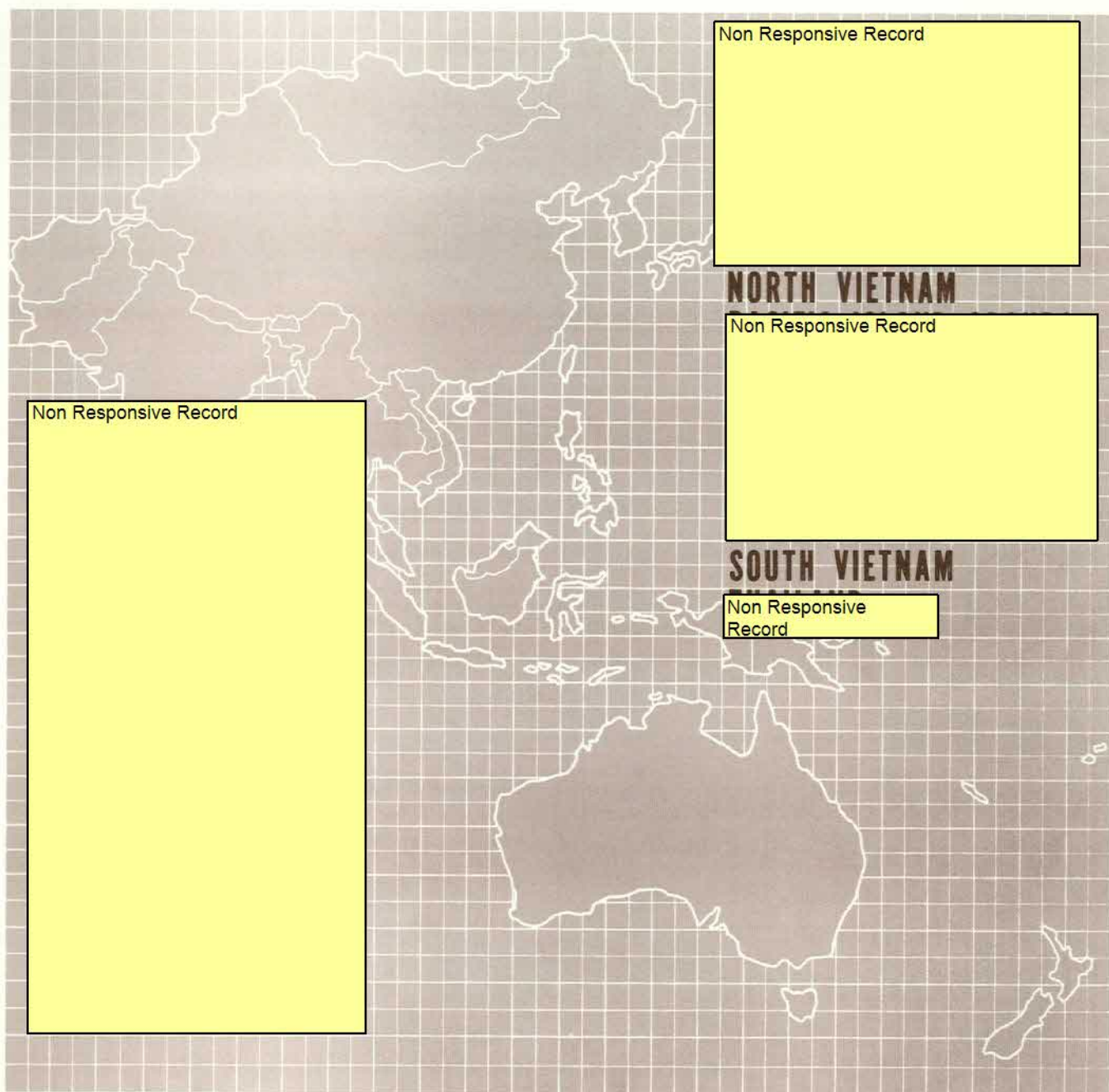
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NORTH VIETNAM

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**VIETNAM
AND
RELATED DEVELOPMENTS**



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NR

R South Vietnam Situation Report

Fighting in South Vietnam's central highlands continued on 8 November. Two US Army companies southwest of Dak To in Kontum Province in 2d Corps received small arms, mortar and B-40 rocket fire during the evening of 8 November, following a mortar and grenade attack earlier in the day. Tactical air strikes, AC-47 aircraft, and artillery supported the companies before the enemy broke contact. Enemy losses are unknown. Preliminary reports indicate six US killed and 15 wounded.

Enemy forces were active on the 7th when attacks were reported in all corps areas. Dai Loc District Headquarters and Town in Quang Nam Province received mortar fire before an assault was launched against the five refugee camps in the area; one other district headquarters and a number of refugee hamlets in the vicinity were also attacked. Twenty-nine of the enemy were killed while friendly casualties totaled 14 killed and 34 wounded.

In 2d Corps, 25 rounds of 82-mm mortar fire were placed on a US airfield in Darlac Province, and 40 rounds of 60-mm mortar fire struck Gia Nghia, the provincial capital of Quang Duc. Updated results of a previously reported engagement in Binh Thuan Province on 7-8 November indicate that enemy losses total 45 killed and four persons detained; friendly casualties were 28 killed and 41 wounded. According to MACV, the enemy force was identified as the 455th Local Force company and the 840th Main Force battalion. In another battle in the corps area on the same dates, South Korean troops and Popular Force and Revolutionary Development elements in Phu Yen killed 54 of the enemy and apprehended 15 Viet Cong suspects; friendly casualties were three killed and five wounded.

South Korean troops operating in Khanh Hoa Province killed 140 of the enemy during sporadic fighting on 6 and 7 November. Enemy-initiated incidents on the 7th in 3d and 4th Corps were limited primarily to mortar attacks and harassing actions.

(Continued)

A number of sources report that the enemy intends to attack the USMC complex at Da Nang in Quang Nam Province shortly. Although information regarding a number of different tactical plans has been received, they all specify that Da Nang is the primary target. One of the plans reportedly states that installations and the airbase at Da Nang will be struck toward the end of the year. Some of the plans specify that probing actions, extensive propaganda, and the use of large rockets will precede the attack. Small-scale actions have increased in the province this week.

NR Political Developments

The Director General of the National Police, BGen Nguyen Ngoc Loan, has reportedly submitted his resignation for "personal" reasons. According to the source, Loan was reluctant to speak of the circumstances and did not indicate whether the resignation had been accepted or would be accepted. Loan also refused to comment on his "personal" reasons but he did say that they had no relation to his immediate superior, Gen Vien, with whom he reportedly gets along well. Loan implied, however, that his expectations of extremely difficult developments during the next month -- with Buddhists and student and political groups -- influenced his move. In another instance, Gen Thang, Chief of Staff, Joint General Staff, said that Loan had burst in upon him and Vice President Ky on 7 November and told Ky that he wanted to resign since "the government had no confidence in him." Loan, who recently resigned as head of the Military Security Service, was named National Police Director on 21 Apr 66. He is also a confidant of Ky and was active in suppressing opposition to the Ky government, particularly the Buddhist demonstrations in Da Nang, Hue and Saigon in March-June 1966. Loan, who is not well liked by many in political circles in Saigon, may have submitted his resignation as Director as a ploy to obtain backing by Ky, which would deter some of the criticism he undoubtedly would receive from members of the new government.

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Lower house deputies, predominantly Catholic, held three meetings during the period 2-6 November to consider the formation of an alliance in the lower house. The 17 members present at the 6 November meeting decided to remain independent and not to commit themselves to support government programs. They also agreed not to announce the establishment of a formal bloc, or to establish a permanent leadership committee because this would have the effect of presenting a closed organization to other potential lower house deputies. They did agree, however, that a temporary five-man board should be established to prepare an agenda and set the next meeting date. All agreed to recruit as many other deputies as possible.

The predominantly Catholic nature of this group will probably work against its having any appeal to other lower house deputies. The maximum number of deputies expected to join will be 30, and the group will probably be temporary in nature with its members moving on to other developing blocs within the next two months. (~~SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM/NO DISSEM~~
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Sec. 3.3(b)
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NR South Vietnam's New Cabinet

A preliminary list of new cabinet members was given to the US Embassy by President Nguyen Van Thieu on 8 November. The new cabinet consists of 18 ministers, including Prime Minister Nguyen Van Loc, seven vice-ministers, two assistants to the Prime Minister, a Director General for Information and Press and a Director General for Youth and Sports.

Almost all of the 29 appointees served under the outgoing military government in various capacities, and most of the key portfolios will be held by Northerners. The only Southerner in an important position is Nguyen Van Loc who is a close associate of Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky. Fourteen of the cabinet members are Southerners, nine are Northerners, and six are from central Vietnam.

Three military officers will hold key positions, while the former Revolutionary Development (RD) Minister Nguyen Duc Thang will replace Lt Gen Nguen Van Vy as Chief of Staff, Joint General Staff. In this post, Thang will direct the RD program and will reportedly be responsible for eradicating corruption in the military. Other shifts call for Vy to replace Defense Minister Cao Van Vien; Gen Vien will continue to serve as Chief of the Joint General Staff. Lt Gen Dang Van Quang, who served as Minister of Plans and Development in the Ky government, was not listed.

While the constitution is somewhat vague regarding the status of military personnel serving in non-military governmental positions, they will undoubtedly be forced to take a leave of absence. Although former Economics Minister Nguyen Huu Hanh apparently will not serve in the cabinet, he will probably continue as Governor of the National Bank.

The large number of men holding significant posts who are supporters of the Vice President indicates that Ky still retains considerable political power.

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The new ministers and their previous positions,
in parentheses, are as follows:

Prime Minister (Lawyer and campaign manager
for Ky).....Nguyen Van Loc
Minister of Foreign Affairs (Minister of
Foreign Affairs).....Tran Van Do
Minister of Defense (Chief of Staff, Joint
General Staff).....LtGen Nguyen Van Vy
Minister of Revolutionary Development
(Minister of Information and Chieu Hoi).....LtGen Nguenyn Bao Tri
Minister of Chieu Hoi /Open Arms/ (Secretary
of State for Social Welfare).....Nguyen Xuan Phong
Minister of Interior (Minister of Security).....LtGen Linh Quang Vien
Minister of Economy (Asst to the Prime
Minister).....Truong Thai Ton
Minister of Finance (DirGen of Budget &
Foreign Aid).....Luu Van Tinh
Minister of Agriculture (Asst to the Prime
Minister).....Ton That Trinh
Minister of Labor (Economics Professor, Dalat
University).....Pho Ba Long
Minister of Communications and Transport
(Head of the state-owned Nong Son Coal Mine)....Luong The Sieu
Minister of Public Works (Unknown).....Buu Don
Minister of Justice (2d Deputy Chairman of the
Peoples' Army Council).....Huynh Duc Buu
Minister of Culture and Education (Dean of
Can Tho University Law School).....Dang Kim Dong
Minister of Veterans (Sec of State for
Veterans Affairs).....Nguyen Tan Hong
Minister of Health (Sec of State for Health).....Dr Tran Van Luy
Minister of Social Welfare and Refugees
(Special Commissioner for Refugees).....Nguyen Phuc Que
Minister of Minorities (Special Commissioner
for Montagnard Affairs).....Paul Nur

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NRL SAM Units in DMZ Identified

North Vietnamese SAM units operating near the DMZ were apparently formerly subordinate to the 238th SAM Regiment, which is charged with the defense of Hanoi.

On 5 October, a message sent to a letter box number (LBN) believed to be associated with the Military Region 4 Air Defense Command Post congratulated the "238th unit" for its alleged shoot-down of two B-52s near Vinh Linh on 17 September. Analysis indicates that the LBN is located at Vinh Linh near the DMZ; this same LBN was formerly associated with elements of the 238th in the Red River Delta. The deployment of the 238th elements probably took place in late July when Military Region 4 communications referred to a missile battalion "coming down." Air defense communications since 20 October have also indicated the presence at Vinh of at least two SAM battalions that were previously part of the 238th Regiment.

The 238th Regiment had long been an unusually large unit, with the number of subordinate battalions ranging as high as 12 to 14 on occasion. There is no evidence as to the size of its elements in the DMZ area, but at least one battalion equivalent may be deployed there.

This is the first firm evidence of the origin of the SAM units in the DMZ and Vinh areas; it was apparently not necessary to expand existing SAM regiments in order to defend targets in southern North Vietnam. (~~SECRET~~ Sec. 3.3)

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NR [North Vietnam Requests Soviet Trucks]

North Vietnam has requested that 534 trucks and vans be delivered from the USSR by rail between mid-November and mid-December. The request included 200 ZIL-130 and 200 GAZ-51 vehicles.

It is not known whether the Soviets have agreed to fill this order, but in early June they confirmed that 393 trucks would be shipped by rail; the vehicles were part of an order for 500 placed earlier in the year.

Moscow has gradually changed its method of shipping cargo trucks to North Vietnam. In 1965, all known truck imports from the USSR were delivered by sea through the port of Haiphong. During 1966, 40 per cent of the more than 1,700 Soviet trucks arrived by rail; this year, nearly all imports have come by the overland route. East European shipments, however, continue to arrive primarily by sea.

(TOP SECRET Sec. 3.3(

R [Enemy Truck Traffic in Lao Panhandle]

The high level of enemy truck traffic that began on 21 October along Routes 911 and 912 from the North Vietnamese border to the Tchepone base area continues. More than 1,100 vehicle sightings have been reported by aerial observers on this 50-mile section of road during the two-week period, although the number of trucks involved in the operation is estimated at 150-200.

Of the trucks observed, many were attacked resulting in the destruction of 75 and damage to 22. Thus far, traffic noted by pilots and road-watch personnel south of Tchepone continues at a low level.

Truck movement on the Mu Gia Pass exit roads farther to the north has been at a low level but has started to show a moderate increase.

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NR Summary of Air Strikes Against North Vietnam, 8 November

A total of 194 US aircraft conducted strikes against North Vietnamese targets on 8 November. Of the sorties flown, 54 were against the following significant targets:

<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>BDA (Pilot Reports)</u>
15	Yen Bai Airfield/ Support	Ordnance impacted in the support and service areas; one secondary explosion observed.
15	Dong Lo Trans- shipment Point	Two buildings destroyed and two damaged; seven WBL craft were damaged.
12	Hoi Thinh Rail- road Yard	Yard engulfed in smoke; six rail cuts observed; two AAA sites silenced.
4	Lang Kay Rail- road Bridge	Ordnance impacted on center of bridge; pilots estimate bridge destroyed.
2	SAM Site 43	Two SHRIKE missiles launched; signal went down but came back up.
4	SAM Sites 142 and 162	Seven SHRIKE missiles launched; results not observed due to evasive maneuvers.
2	SAM Site 143	Two SHRIKE missiles launched; signal went down 50 seconds after alunch; estimate site destroyed or heavily damaged.

Armed Reconnaissance Strike Results

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged/ Cratered/Cut</u>	<u>Struck (No Report)</u>
Bridges	1	2	4
Bridge approach		1	
Ferries		1	2

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	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged/ Cratered/Cut</u>	<u>Struck (No Report)</u>
Highway/road segments		6	3
RR rolling stock	6	7	
RR segments		2	
Trucks	4	4	58
Truck parks		1	2
WBL	3	4	7
AAA	3		7
Buildings/structures	22	1	3
Bunkers		1	2
Field gun positions	1	4	9
Radar sites			3
Storage areas		2	1
Locomotive		1	
Troop concentration			1
SAM sites			3

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SUPPLEMENT

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS

IN SOUTH VIETNAM

SUMMARY OF SELECTED MILITARY STATISTICS

THIS WEEK (29 OCT - 4 NOV) COMPARED WITH LAST WEEK (22 - 28 OCT 67)

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CATEGORIES	COMMUNIST FORCES				RVN				US				3rd NATION FORCES				COMBINED **			
	THIS WEEK		LAST WEEK		THIS WEEK		LAST WEEK		THIS WEEK		LAST WEEK		THIS WEEK		LAST WEEK		THIS WEEK		LAST WEEK	
	VC	NVA	VC	NVA																
INFANTRY-TYPE BATTALIONS	81	70	81	70	154		154		89		89		25		25		<div></div>		<div></div>	
OTHER BATTALIONS	12	31	12	31	50		50		130		130		12		12					
TOTAL	194 a		194 a		204 a		204 a		219 a		219 a		37 a		37 a					
* OPERATIONS	3	1			NO	*EC	NO	*EC	NO	*EC	NO	*EC	NO	*EC	NO	*EC	NO	*EC	NO	*EC
BN-SIZE OR LARGER ACTIONS/ATTACKS (Three companies or larger)	66	84			68	39	65	32	30	27	24	22	2	1	3	2	4	3	2	2
SMALL UNIT ACTIONS/ATTACKS (Less than three rifle companies)	29	36			31,899	104	30,262	157	8,492	197	8,162	71	2,187	23	1,835	0				
INCIDENTS OF TERROR	27	56																		
INCIDENTS OF SABOTAGE	297	406																		
INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT	8	15																		
INCIDENTS OF PROPAGANDA																				
SUB TOTALS	430	598																		
INCIDENTS OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE	84	199																		
GRAND TOTALS	514	797			31,967	143	30,327	189	8,522	224	8,186	93	2,189	24	1,838	2	4	3	2	2
CASUALTIES																	<div></div>		<div></div>	
KILLED	1,894	1,388			160		210		178		166		10		60					
WOUNDED					533		648		793		966		8		120					
MISSING/CAPTURED					60		21													
TOTALS	1,894	1,388			753		879		971		1,132		18		180					
					ALLIED FORCES TOTAL															
					THIS WEEK					LAST WEEK										
WEAPONS LOST					<div></div>															
INDIVIDUAL	559	463																		
CREW SERVED	94	58																		
TOTALS	653	521					92		149											
							0		2											
							92		151											

*EC - Operations that established enemy contact. This figure is included in the number of operations.

**Casualties from combined operations are reflected in respective country totals

* TOTALS SHOWING ENEMY ATTACKS BY SIZE SHOULD BE REGARDED AS PRELIMINARY.

a) AVERAGE STRENGTHS - INF TYPE BNS

VC/NVA 450 - 800

RVN 500 - 800

U.S. 770 - 1,200

ALLIES 700 - 800

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Sec. 3.3(b)
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SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM
29 OCT-4 NOV 1967

R Summary

Over-all Communist-initiated activity decreased in South Vietnam during the week ending 4 November, but three large-scale attacks were launched in 3d Corps. Units of the 273D VC Regiment mounted a two-battalion attack against the US Special Forces Camp and Subsector Headquarters at Loc Ninh in Binh Long Province and later carried out one of regimental size. The Communists lost over 700 men -- 463 in one attack alone -- while US and ARVN forces defending Loc Ninh lost only 23 killed and 95 wounded. An estimated battalion-size force that attacked an ARVN base at Loc Giang in Hau Nghia lost eight killed; three ARVN soldiers were killed and 13 wounded. Countrywide, most of the attacks were against military posts or positions, and activity was highest in Quang Tri Province where 12 attacks were reported.

US forces terminated Operations KINGFISHER, ARDMORE, and FREMONT in 1st Corps. They killed 1,353 of the enemy and detained 382 persons; US losses were 367 killed and 3,385 wounded. South Korean Marines in 1st Corps ended Operation DRAGON FIRE in Quang Ngai after killing 541 of the enemy and detaining 138 suspects; the Marines lost 46 killed and 202 wounded. ARVN forces conducted Operations LAM SON 67 in 3d Corps and CUU LONG 55/10 and CUU LONG 178 in 4th Corps. Cumulative results were 13 Communists killed and 58 detained; ARVN losses totaled 20 killed and 60 wounded. Most other friendly operations continued without significant change.

The lower house of the legislature was installed following the inauguration of President Thieu and Vice President Ky on 31 October. The old National Assembly was dissolved on the same day, and the Peoples Army Council was disbanded on the 30th. Militant Buddhists in Saigon were prevented from occupying the Vien Hoa Dao Pagoda, the headquarters of the moderate faction. Retail prices rose sharply and the price of gold and green dollars slightly.

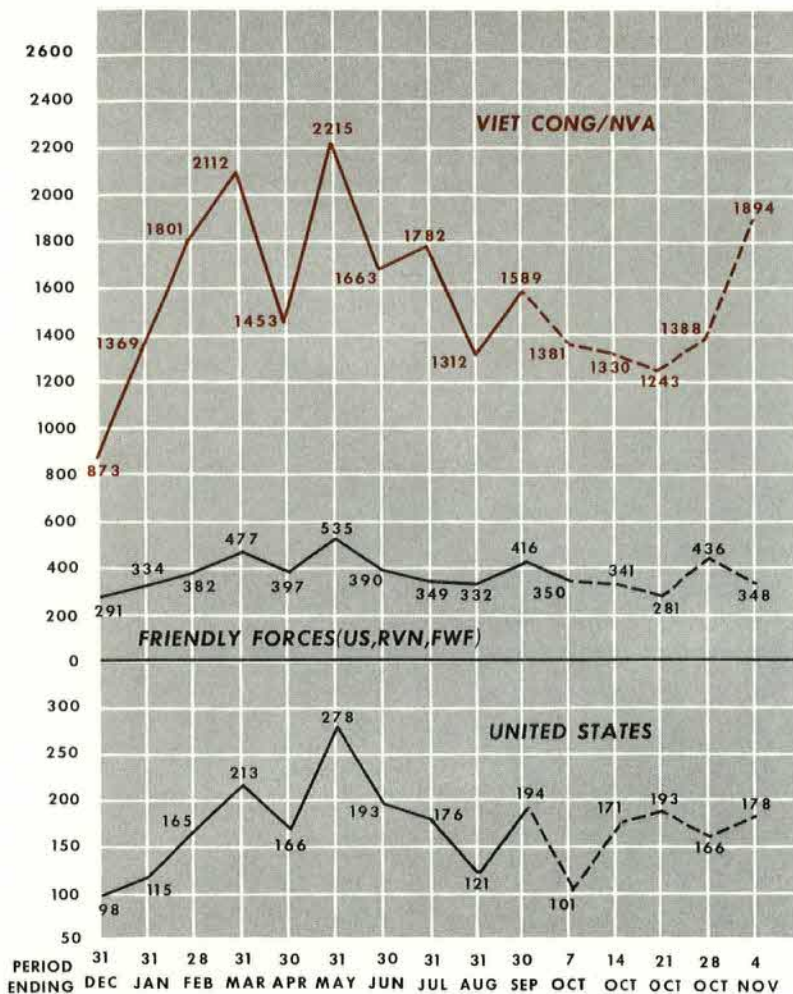
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(MACV WEEKLY REPORT)

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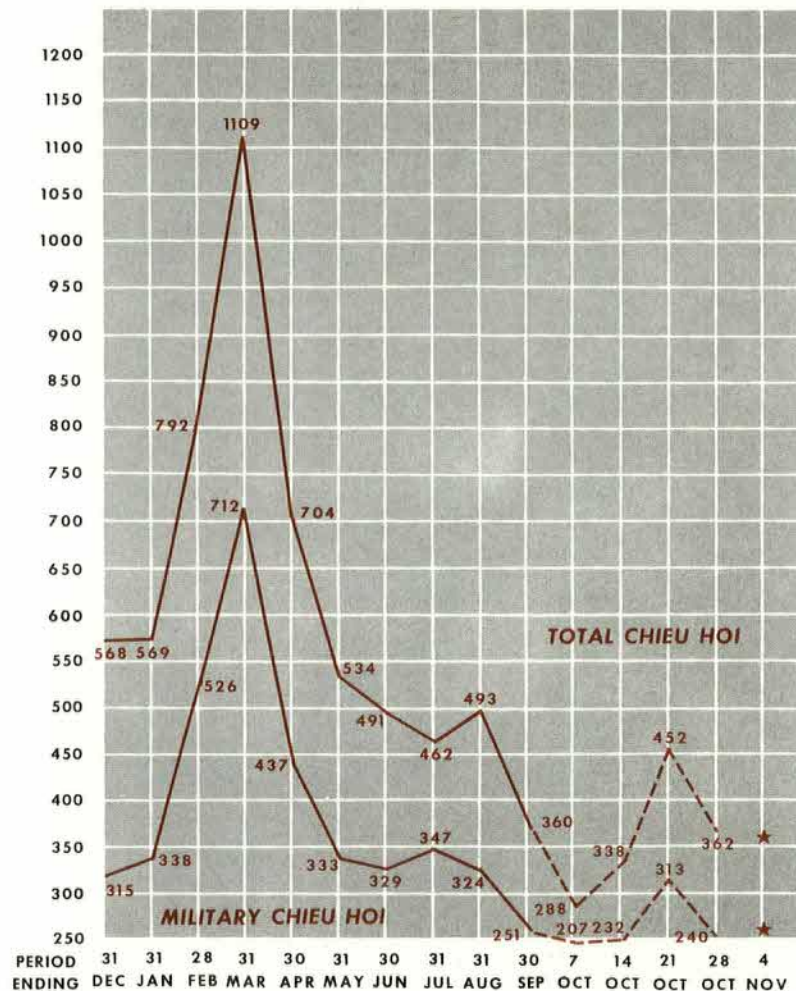


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— WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR THE MONTH
- - - WEEKLY TOTAL

CHIEU HOI

SINCE 1 JAN 1967



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MILITARY

The number of enemy-initiated incidents decreased from 797 to 514, and attacks from 85 to 69. Incidents of terrorism totaled 29; sabotage, 27; harassment, 297; propaganda, eight; and AA fire, 84. Allied forces conducted 104 large-scale operations, as compared with 94 during the preceding week; the number of enemy contacts increased from 58 to 70. Of the 42,578 small-unit actions carried out, 31,899 were conducted by the Vietnamese, 8,492 by US forces, and 2,187 by other Free World forces; they produced another 324 contacts. The Communists lost 1,894 killed, as compared with 1,388 (adjusted) a week ago. Chieu Hoi figures for the period were 362, of which 240 were military. A summary of casualties follows:

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Captured or Missing</u>	<u>Total</u>
US	178	793	-	971
RVN	160	533	60	753
FWF	10	8	-	18
VC/NVA	1,849	-	-	1,849

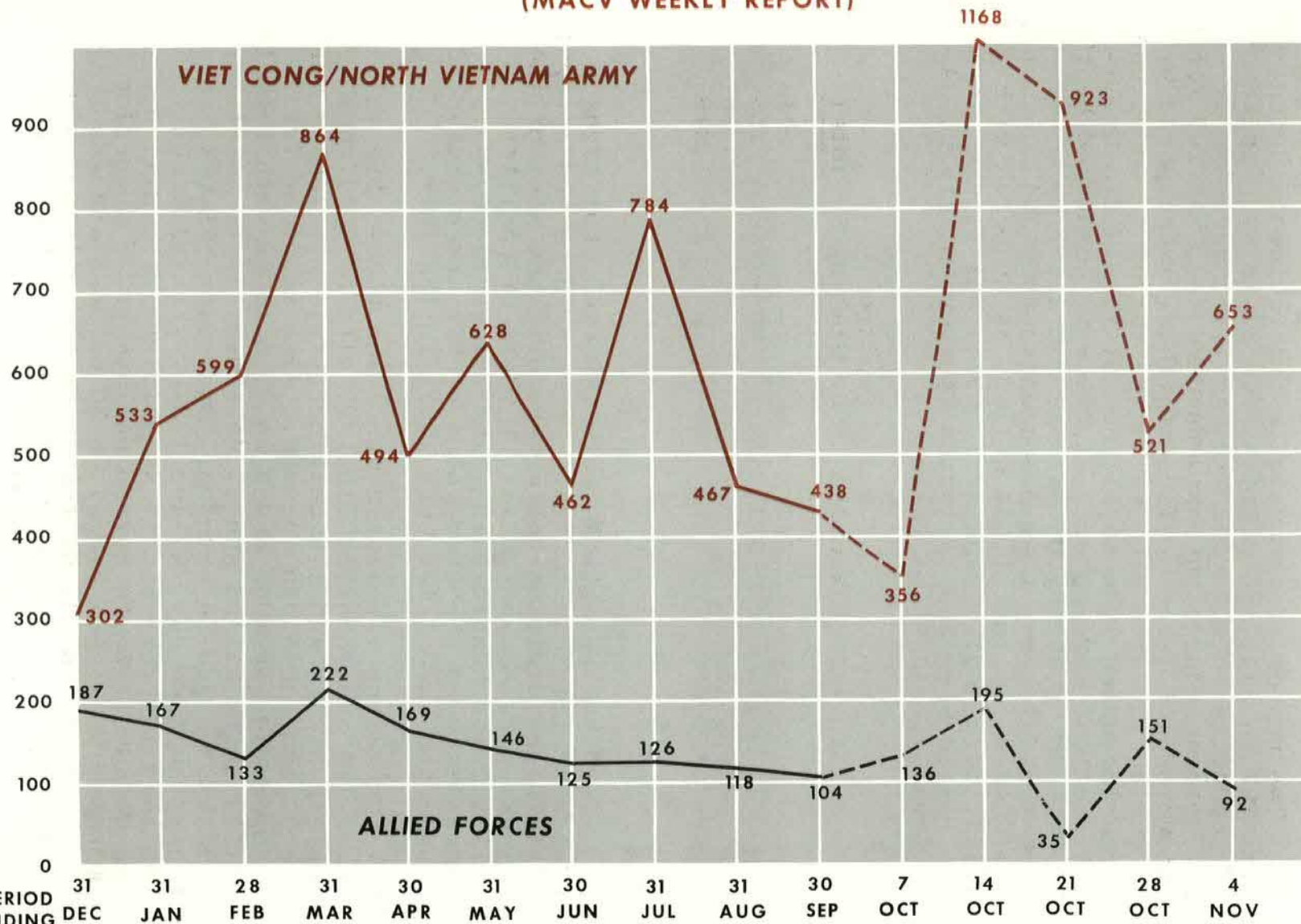
1st Corps

Twenty-five attacks were reported, but eight caused no friendly losses. Three bridges and several hamlets and district towns were hit, but most of the attacks were against military posts or positions. Activity was heaviest in Quang Tri Province -- 12 incidents were reported there -- but seven caused no losses and casualties were light in the rest.

US forces terminated Operation KINGFISHER in Quang Tri and reported final results of 1,117 Communists killed and 178 detained; friendly losses were 340 killed and 3,086 wounded. Also in Quang Tri, US Operation ARDMORE ended on 31 October with results of 113 enemy killed and 12 detained; 10 US soldiers were killed and 39 wounded. Operation FREMONT, which ended the same day, killed 123 of the enemy and detained 192 persons; 17 US soldiers were killed and 260 wounded. South Korean Marines ended Operation DRAGON FIRE in Quang Ngai on 30 October and reported they had killed 541 of the enemy and detained 138 suspects; 46 Marines were killed and 202 wounded. All other operations continued.

WEAPONS LOST SINCE 1 JANUARY 1967 (MACV WEEKLY REPORT)

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— WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR THE MONTH
- - - WEEKLY TOTAL

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2d Corps

Three attacks and two ambushes were reported; one ambush caused no losses. In Binh Dinh, an estimated company-size force attacked and overran a village chief's compound. Two Popular Forces (PF) soldiers and five civilians were killed, four PF soldiers and two civilians were wounded. Friendly operations continued, most of them without significant change.

3d Corps

Nineteen attacks and one ambush took place; three of the 19 involved a battalion-size or larger force. Seven attacks were reported in Binh Long Province. The most significant activity was the series of attacks by units of the 273D VC Regiment against the US Special Forces Camp and Subsector Headquarters at Loc Ninh. The Viet Cong attacked once with a two battalion-size force and once with one of regimental size but lost over 700 men, 463 in one assault alone. Total friendly losses during the four-day engagement were 23 killed and 95 wounded. In the third reported large-scale attack, an estimated battalion-size force lost eight killed while attacking an ARVN base at Loc Giang in Hau Nghia Province; three ARVN soldiers were killed and 13 wounded. Throughout the corps area, most of the attacks were directed against military posts or positions. Vietnamese forces reported killing 28 Communists and detaining two during the two-day, search-and-destroy operation LAM SON 67 in Long An; four ARVN soldiers were wounded. All other friendly operations continued, most of them without significant change.

4th Corps

Nineteen attacks took place; three caused no friendly losses. Kien Hoa and Dinh Tuong were hardest hit -- they experienced six and five attacks, respectively. Communists attacked Truc Giang Airfield twice, but only six civilians were wounded. An attack on a training center in Sa Dec killed five PF soldiers and 10 National Police and wounded a total of 46; 11 more are missing.

The Communists lost 31 killed in an assault on an ARVN bivouac position in Kien Hoa; 10 of the defenders were killed and 26 wounded. Throughout the corps, five attacks were launched against district towns and one against a coastal group base; the rest were against military posts or positions. Friendly casualties were generally light.

ARVN forces that conducted search-and-destroy Operations CUU LONG 55/10 and CUU LONG 178 in Kien Hoa reported killing 109 of the enemy and detaining 56; Vietnamese losses were 20 killed and 56 wounded. The one-day ARVN Operation DAN CHI 309A/SD in Chuong Thien Province killed 35 Communists and detained two; no friendly losses were reported.

NR MARKET TIME Operations

MARKET TIME forces searched 7,897 junks and 26,108 people; 46 people were detained.

NR Lines of Communication

As of 4 November, five bridges on Highway 9 in 1st Corps were washed out; they cannot be repaired until after the monsoon season ends, probably early next summer. In 2d Corps, Highway 21 was closed from Ninh Hoa to Duc My for security reasons. In 3d Corps, one bridge on Highway 13 will be down for an undetermined period. The percentage of secure railroads was 35; about 54 per cent was out and 11 per cent under repair.

NR POLITICAL

The inauguration of President Nguyen Van Thieu and Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky took place on 31 October in front of the National Assembly Building in the presence of members of foreign delegations, high-ranking military officers, political and religious leaders, members of the government and legislature, and the diplomatic corps. Shortly after the brief ceremony, Thieu announced that Nguyen Van Loc would serve as Prime Minister in the new government and that present cabinet members would remain in office until new ones

were appointed. A few of the cabinet members under Ky will undoubtedly retain their positions.

The 137-member House of Representatives held its first session later in the day. It was opened with a welcoming speech by Representative Nguyen Ba Luong, the head of the body. President Thieu then gave a congratulatory speech. With the seating of the lower house, the old National Assembly -- which had written the constitution and electoral laws by which a representative government had been established -- went out of existence. The People's Army Council, a quasi-advisory body to the military leadership in the Ky government and headed by Nguyen Van Loc, had been formally disbanded the day before in a ceremony attended by Thieu and Ky.

In other developments, Saigon police prevented militant Buddhists from occupying the Vien Hoa Dao Pagoda, headquarters of the moderate faction led by Thich Tam Chau, on 29 October. The militants were restricted to the An Quang Pagoda compound during a brief, nonviolent confrontation. The proposed march to the Vien Hoa Dao Pagoda had been well publicized, and militant monks probably expected the police to intervene. They may have wanted to create an incident embarrassing to government leaders just before the inauguration. The moderate faction had issued a communique announcing that the new Unified Buddhist Association Charter was again in effect as of 28 October and putting the blame for the move on the militant leadership's adamant stand against a compromise. The communique stated, however, that the monks of the "National Pagoda" (Vien Hoa Dao) were always prepared to discuss the new Charter with the An Quang monks.

NR ECONOMIC

One of the sharpest increases in recent months was registered in the Saigon retail price index for the week ending 30 October. A rise in food prices, including pork, fish, chicken, cabbage, and cucumbers, was mainly due to interdiction of Route 4 in the Mekong Delta before the inauguration and National Day.

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Heavy rains in some areas also hindered the transport of foodstuffs from 4th Corps and led to their spoilage. Imported commodity prices increased only slightly; the sharpest rise was for cement.

The price of gold and the US dollar exchange rate went up somewhat during the week. Prices noted on the Saigon Free Market as of 30 October were: Gold, 197 piasters per 35th of an ounce; green dollars, 153 piasters per one US dollar. Prices at the end of the previous week had been 193 and 151 piasters, respectively.
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